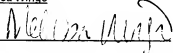


IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicants:	Andreas Witzel, et al.	§	Group Art Unit:	2617
Serial No:	10/516,866	§	Examiner:	Kwasí Karikari
Filed:	December 3, 2004	§	Confirmation No:	2414
Attorney Docket No:	P17157-US1	§		
Customer No.:	27045	§		

For: OPERATING OF A SWITCHING NODE IN A COMMUNICATIONS NETWORK
COMPRISING BOTH A LAYERED AND A NON-LAYERED ARCHITECTURAL
ENVIRONMENT

Mail Stop AMENDMENT
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

<p align="center"><u>CERTIFICATE OF MAILING OR TRANSMISSION</u></p> <p>I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service with sufficient postage for First class or Express mail in an envelope addressed to Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450, or being facsimile transmitted to the USPTO at (571) 273-8300, or electronically via EFS-Web on the date indicated below</p> <p>Date: <u>July 28, 2006</u></p> <p>Name: <u>Melissa Wingo</u></p> <p>Signature: </p>

Dear Examiner:

RESPONSE TO RESTRICTION REQUIREMENT

In response to the Restriction Requirement dated July 3, 2006, the Applicant provisionally elects, with traverse, Group I, comprising claims 1-17 for further prosecution in this application.

The Restriction Requirement is respectfully traversed because Group II claims a (switching) node of a communications network that can fulfill the tasks of both the node as part of a layered architectural environment, e.g. as MSC-Server, and the node as part of a non-layered architectural environment, e.g. as MSC/VLR. The Group I claims include the limitations of the MSC-Server and MSC/VLR in dependent claims 10 and 11. The method claims include the MSC and MSC/VLR limitations.

In view of the foregoing, the Applicant respectfully requests that the requirement with respect to Group II be withdrawn upon reconsideration.